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Rome's new building receives AFMC award

by **Fran Crumb, Information Directorate**

ROME, N.Y. — The Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate Research Facility has been chosen for the Honor Award in the Concept Design Category in the 2004 Air Force Materiel Command Design Awards.

The award is the highest presented by the command in a program intended to promote quality design. The program encourages award-winning efforts by recognizing individual designers and architect-engineering firms who display a high level of creativity while producing cost-efficient, energy-conscious facilities compatible to their environment and meeting user needs and expectations.

Atkins Benham Constructors of Oklahoma City, Okla., was awarded a \$19,698,968 contract in September 2001, for construction of the facility through a cooperative effort between the Air Force and New York State's Empire State Development Corp. at the Griffiss Business & Technology Park. The new, 105,000-square-foot facility will house more than 300 government employees and contractors. When fully occupied next year, the AFRL Information Directorate Research Facility will consolidate the directorate's technical divisions into a single complex, including an adjacent existing building. This consolidation will enhance collaboration among the directorate's scientists and engineers and provide the most current state-of-the-art research environment.

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Philadelphia, Pa., was responsible for administering the construction. The facility is the centerpiece of a \$24.8 million program that also included changes to the existing adjacent building and site enhancements. @